

**STATE BOARD ADVISORY PANEL
FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION**

The Arizona State Advisory Panel for Special Education held a joint meeting with the Interagency Coordinating Commission at the Capitol Center Building, 15 S. 15th Ave., Conf. Rooms A and B, Phoenix, Arizona, on May 13, 2008, from 12:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Members Present

Molly Bright
M. Diane Bruening
Susan Douglas
Robert Hill, Ed.S., Co-Chair
Alecia Jackson
Gail Jacobs, Ed.D.
Dr. Ida Malian
Kathy McDonald
Terisa Rademacher, Co-chair
Kim Simmons
Kay B. Turner, Ed.D, Vice-chairperson
Nancy Williams

Others Present

Valerie Andrews James, ADE/ECSE
Cynthia Bolewski, ADE/ESS
Colette Chapman, ADE/ESS
Diane Mignella, ADE/ESS
Jeannette Zemeida, ADE/ESS
ICC Panel

Members Absent

Ronald L. Clanton
Jay Dashefsky
Phyllis Green
Ileen G. Herberg

Minutes Approved (As Read)(As Amended)

Chairperson: _____

Signature

Date

Topic	Discussion	Outcome
1. Call to order.	Terisa Rademacher, Co-Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m.	1. None.
2. Public comment.	Ms. Rademacher welcomed the public in attendance. She explained to those present the procedures for making a comment. Anyone wishing to comment on an agenda item was asked to fill out a brief questionnaire stating which agenda item they wished to comment on. That person would then be called on when that item was discussed.	2. None.
3. Introductions	Ms. Rademacher, Co-chair for SEAP welcomed those present. SEAP was the host for the 2008 joint meeting. Members of the Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP) and Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) introduced themselves.	3. None
4. First Things First	Karen Woodhouse, Deputy Director, Early Childhood Development and Health Board gave an overview presentation on First Things First. The Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board (AzECDHB) has been meeting for 1 ½ years. Staff members were added a year ago. There are 75 employees. The Board is made up of 12 members. Nine of the members are appointed by the Governor and three are ex-officio members which represent the Department of Education, Department of Economic Security and Department of Health Services. Ms. Woodhouse gave the group a brief history of the development of First Things First (FTF) which was a voter approved initiative in November of 2006. The FTF main objective is to look at the resources and programs that currently exist in Arizona, in addition to the new revenue stream, and look systemically across the board. FTF is hoping to create easy access to resources for families and children across the state. Many states are working to create Early Childhood Systems (ECS). Arizona is looking at the national model established by the National Early Childhood Systems Working Group to build the state model. FTF is supportive of a wide range of different types of programs and is committed to building the system of resources for all children 0-5. There currently isn't a system to serve the 0-5 population so that is what FTF will try to do. FTF operates at both the state and local level. In addition to the state board there are 31 Regional Partnership Councils (RPC). The majority of the grant money will be distributed to	4. None.

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	<p>the local councils. Most of the decisions will be made at the local level.</p> <p>Most of the RPCs are broken along county lines. However, Maricopa and Pima Counties have multiple councils; and Graham and Greenlee Counties banded together to create a council. Tribes had the option of forming their own councils or joining the county council. Each council has 11 members. A few councils still have vacancies and are working to fill them. Some councils are beginning to meet.</p> <p>FTF will receive approximately \$150 million annually. Eighty-one percent of the funds will go to the RPCs; 10% is for administrative costs; and 9% for state level grants. FTF will begin to distribute the money in July 2009.</p> <p>Ms. Woodhouse outlined the long-term goals for FTF which include: access to high quality care and education, access to high quality preventative and continuous health care, and all early childhood development health professionals well-prepared and highly skilled.</p> <p>Ms. Woodhouse outlined the FTF strategic directions for statewide funding for the next 3-5 years. The areas approved by the Board include: Quality Improvement Rating System, Health Consultants, and scholarship money for professional development.</p> <p>One of the areas currently on hold for Board approval is developmental screening and early intervention services. Board members asked the staff to take a more comprehensive look at this plan. The initial plan was to give money to AHCCCS so that they could leverage federal dollars to do more screenings at the neonatal level for babies that were enrolled in AHCCCS. AHCCCS currently has only enough money to do screening for any child that is in the neonatal intensive care. Any other child at risk isn't being screened until they are referred by AzEIP or another service provider. Staff members will be meeting with experts, providers and stakeholders across the state. They include parents, services providers, DHS, DES, ADE, and American Academy of Pediatrics – AZ Affiliate. Members of SEAP and ICC provided Ms. Woodhouse with additional resources of information. Ms. Woodhouse asked that anyone with additional resource information call her at 602-771-5100.</p> <p>FTF will be establishing logistics teams to assist in the development of new strategic directions. The teams will be small, short-term and have a specific purpose. Teams will be organized around barriers, topics that need input for decision making or other areas that the Board needs public input on.</p> <p>The local councils have the responsibility to determine what they will be funding in their local communities; however, they still need to align their efforts with one or more of the Board's goals.</p>	

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5. Regional In-By-3 and Child Find Trainings	<p>Ms. Woodhouse fielded questions from the group.</p> <p>Valerie Andrews James, Director, Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) and Karen Nelson Hunter, Professional Development Coordinator, DES/AzEIP reported on the joint trainings that were held by their agencies.</p> <p>Nine regional trainings on Transition and Child Find were held throughout the state. Taking the trainings to communities across the state helped foster local collaboration. Several topics were covered: transition Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA), AzEIP and local education agency procedures for a smooth transition, new Child Find IGA, new Child Find forms, ADE/AzEIP Alert System and data collection.</p> <p>Ms. James and Ms. Hunter reviewed data results for Indicator 8 of the AzEIP Transition SPP/APR. This indicator focuses on the percent of all children exiting part C who received timely transition planning to support the child's transition to preschool and other appropriate community services by their third birthday. The data was discussed and the reasons for the low percentages for LEA notification were explained.</p> <p>In By 3 Data: 2004-2005 – 22% (used monitoring data only); 2005-2006 – 63.6% (begin gathering information from all schools; 2006-2007 – 82.4%. The data shows that the Early Childhood trainings have helped schools to increase their compliance with In-By-3 and data collection accuracy.</p> <p>ECSE is collaborating with AzEIP and planning to include a webpage on their website. Individuals in the field will be able to go to the website and access technical assistance documents. ECSE is also considering including web-based training but is currently investigating the logistics of this plan. A Panel member suggested adding information for parents as well.</p>	5. None
6. Legislative Update	<p>Ms. James updated the group on the legislative progress of SB 1359, the Developmental Delay bill.</p> <p>At the time of this meeting, the bill had passed through the Senate Education Committee and Health Education Committee. It was scheduled to go to the Rules Committee and the Appropriations Committee next. Ms. James explained the history of the bill and answered questions from the group.</p> <p>The Developmental Delay Bill will keep the preschool severe delay; this category receives extra money. However the name has been changed to Early Childhood Severe Delay to align</p>	6. None.

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	<p>with how Early Childhood represents preschool. The bill also proposes that the preschool moderate delay be changed to read as a developmental delay which is what the category is called within IDEA. Preschool speech-language would be changed to speech-language impairment, which could be used throughout their school career, if applicable. Each state has to come up with its own definition of “developmental delay”. The “developmental delay” category will allow the continuation of early intervention for a child up to age 9. Arizona chose to align the definition with the federal definition. It is close to the same definition as preschool moderate delay but it can be carried up to age 9. The child will not need to be retested before entering kindergarten with this new definition. There will be no change to the hearing or the vision categories.</p> <p>A fact sheet on the bill was available. Ms. James planned to send it to Panel members following the meeting.</p> <p>SB 1263/ HB 2847: autism spectrum disorder; Steven’s law – Passed as amended (and signed by Governor Napolitano). This bill requires private insurers to provide coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorder. The law will go into affect July 2009.</p> <p>HB 2390: Department of economic security; continuation – Passed (and signed by Governor Napolitano)</p> <p>HB 2620: Now: fiscal year 2007-2008; budget adjustments – Passed as amended (and signed by Governor Napolitano)</p> <p>The Budget for FY 2009 has not yet been passed.</p> <p>HB 2640: Public officers; financial disclosure – Failed.</p>	
7. Adjournment	<p>Maureen Casey, Co-Chair, ICC made a few announcements for the ICC members.</p> <p>The next Joint SEAP/ICC meeting is scheduled for March 6, 2009. It will be held at the Department of Education, 2005 N. Central, Phoenix, AZ.</p> <p>Ms. Rademacher adjourned the meeting at 3:15 pm.</p>	7. Adjournment.